

## McLAURIN TO THE PEOPLE

Platform and Principles as Candidate for Governor.

### HE WANTS SQUARE DEAL FOR ALL

Would Perfect the Warehouse—Says Taxes are Too High Because of Useless Expenditures—Would Adopt Budget System and Reduce Number of Offices.

Whether John L. McLauren is to be governor or not, he is going to set the pace for the present campaign, and such educational benefit as may be derived from the canvass is going to grow out of what he says and does. For that reason if for no other reason, a full summary of his opening speech at Barnwell is well worth while, and we are giving it herewith as follows:

#### The State Warehouse.

I believe that the moral and spiritual welfare of a people depends more upon their material prosperity than any one factor.

The south has a natural monopoly in the production of cotton, which, if fully comprehended and utilized, would make her a dominating factor in the commerce and the civilization of the world. Cotton is our one great money crop; it is the cornerstone of international finance, and the main factor in the balance of foreign trade. It has always seemed to me that it was a shame that the state of South Carolina, with its natural monopoly, should be so poor.

The one great ambition of my life has been to devise a plan of finance, based upon cotton which would make the south rich and independent.

In the distressing times of 1911, this dream took the shape of a state warehouse system. The purpose was merely to make cotton a fluid asset, like bonds and stocks. I submitted the plan to the Federal Reserve board, and received its unqualified approval.

At a time when you could not borrow a dollar on cotton in South Carolina, I secured the backing of Mr. Harding, now chairman of the Federal reserve board and we began to borrow 50 per cent of the face value of a warehouse receipt. Similar plans were made in other states and the price of cotton began to advance. It never stopped until it touched 35 cents, and it would be 50 cents a pound now, if the Federal Reserve board had not quit discounting cotton paper.

The price of cotton is largely a matter of utilizing credits. Ninety per cent of the business of this world is done upon credits based on products. Money is a mere measure in the exchange of values. Cotton has always been a basis of credit in anybody's hands except the man who made it. I was merely trying to make it a credit in the farmer's hands. With cotton as a basis of credit, they can take it away from the farmers when they please. Whoever control the expansion or contraction of cotton credits, can control cotton prices.

Section 13 of the Federal Reserve act is the key to the situation. It is the only key.

It is not generally known, but there is a provision there not only for discounting papers based upon the actual cotton, but also for paper based upon credits that go into the production of the crop.

With the proper machinery you can discount rent notes, crop mortgages, and liens which the proceeds are to be used in the production of the crop. To do this, however, you must have the proper machinery. This is what I am attempting to do, and will do if I am given the power.

This country can be transformed from a credit into a cash country.

Senator McLauren then explained how Mr. Harding had authorized him and Mr. J. A. Banks to institute a discount bank in connection with the state warehouse. He said the desire to complete these plans was the only thing that made him willing to endure the summer campaign. He did not want any office except for the public good. He had resigned as warehouse commissioner with a two year term at the same salary as the governor.

**Taxes.** The taxpayers and voters of this state have been bullied and browbeaten by a bunch of pretentious, dishonest political demagogues until they have gotten into the habit of standing in line to have their pockets picked. Most politicians figure that the state owes them a living, but if so it would be cheaper to pension them.

Useless boards and commissions are created each year, because of the growing horde of spoliars who demand an extension of the system as a reward for services performed for the machine.

The wealth of South Carolina in ten years increased less than 50 per cent and population 10 per cent, yet the expenditures have increased 100 per cent. Now, all experts on taxation agree that when taxes increase faster than wealth and population, an unbearable burden is laid on the people.

No state, county or town official will admit that this condition is the result of his administration. It is not; it is the system that piles up the expense account, which the taxpayer is compelled to settle. All of them have helped to build up a spoils system, from the town to the congressional pork barrel.

A political machine office-holder who connives and intrigues with the machine to make places for the job-hunting wolves, who attach themselves like barnacles to the political ship, is just as dishonest as though he reached his hands into the public money bags and abstracted funds for his own use.

There are various kinds of robbers. They run all the way from the brute who knocks his victim down with a sand-bag, the porch climber who administers chloroform and painlessly extracts the cash, up to the smooth, polished representatives of monopoly, who simply through form of law take what they want. No less so than the man elected by the people, who aids

in the extravagant administration of public funds. The clever politician naturally favors large appropriations. It makes it easier for him to secure jobs for his helpers.

We need:

1. To get the assessment of property out of politics. So long as the officials assessing property are in politics, there will be favoritism.

2. Every state institution and department should be limited to a definite amount.

3. A governor who will throw the responsibility for excessive taxation on the legislature, by the firm use of the veto power, thus putting into practical effect, "No taxation without representation."

4. To do away with this is the: a. A Budget system and treasurer, controller general and treasurer, as a commission to propose appropriations. This fixes direct responsibility.

b. Do away with so many boards, commissions, etc., by having one administrative board to control all state institutions. Stop duplicating state machinery.

c. The recall to allow to every executive from governor to coroner, so we can fire the men we hire.

d. Let the women who pay taxes have equal suffrage.

**Efficiency.** There has been no effort in this state government for a real business administration. Taxes in South Carolina have doubled within ten years and yet you dare not let the maintenance of law or efficiency have been bettered?

I venture the assertion that about one person out of every twenty of the voters of South Carolina are on the public pay roll in some capacity. Only voters are useful to the politicians. You find few except them on the pay roll. This means the balance of power is held by the politicians.

This state and every other state is flooded with political leeches, performing no useful work, but bending their energies to keep up a machine that will perpetuate their jobs. Food At a time when you could not borrow a dollar on cotton in South Carolina, I secured the backing of Mr. Harding, now chairman of the Federal reserve board and we began to borrow 50 per cent of the face value of a warehouse receipt. Similar plans were made in other states and the price of cotton began to advance. It never stopped until it touched 35 cents, and it would be 50 cents a pound now, if the Federal Reserve board had not quit discounting cotton paper.

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## DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

Those Who Filed Pledges and Paid Assessments.

The state and senatorial campaigns will begin today, the former in Barnwell and the latter in Winnsboro. Time for the filing of pledges and the payment of assessment fees closed at noon Monday, and a meeting of the state executive committee of the Democratic party was held in the state library immediately thereafter, to consider the various pending questions pertaining to the primary elections.

Several 11th hour candidates entered, George W. Wightman of Sallada, and Octavius Cohen of Monck's Corner, offering for lieutenant governor.

Mr. G. Evans of Edgefield, and T. G. Croft of Aiken, were the surprises in the Second congressional district in opposition to Congressman J. F. Byrnes.

Congressman Lever of the Seventh, has four opponents, T. F. Brantley of Orangeburg, T. G. McLeod, Bishopville, and George Bell Timmerman, Lexington.

Congressman Whaley of the First district, Congressman Stevenson of the Fifth district, and Congressman Haggard of the Sixth district, are without opposition.

**Two Come Too Late.** E. E. Verner of Richland, Oconee county, filed his pledge by telegram Sunday as a candidate for congress in the Third district. The telegram was not received by General Willie Jones until 10 o'clock Monday morning, but as the lapse of time between the sending of the telegram and the closing hour in which a pledge could have been filed by letter after application had been made for the forms could have been sent, the committee ruled Mr. Verner's pledge as inadequate.

J. A. Banks of St. Matthews, reached the committee just two minutes late with his pledge as a candidate for the office of commissioner of agriculture, commerce and industries. The sub-committee rejected the pledge, which action was sustained by the executive committee as a whole.

W. A. Stuckey of Bishopville, did not qualify as a candidate for governor.

**Soldier Vote Problem.** The committee wrestled with the problem incident to voting soldiers, sailors and men in the civil service. An honest effort will be made to provide opportunity for every man in the camps and naval stations and in the civil service in Washington to vote as anticipated in the Berry measure, enacted at the recent session of the general assembly, but the task is almost insurmountable.

The Berry measure provides that boxes shall be provided at each cantonment for the 43 members of the State. The great task is to locate the absent voter. Military authorities are not over-benign with election matters and the booths or boxes will likely have to be placed outside the three cantonments of the state. As there are no specific units of South Carolina men at any of these camps, the task is one of overwhelming magnitude and will require strenuous effort on the part of the various county chairmen and executive committees to bring any appreciable number of men in touch with the election machinery.

The Berry act was adopted as a part of the primary rules and a central committee, consisting of John Gary Evans of Spartanburg, state chairman; J. A. Berry, Orangeburg; Col. T. B. Butler of Gaffney, and Macbeth Young, Union, to provide for the application of the machinery for the military, naval and civil service vote. The Federal government has ruled that no provision will be allowed for the men abroad to cast their ballots. Candidates for the various offices are:

United States senate—Cole L. Hense, Columbia; N. B. Dial, Laurens; James F. Rice, Anderson; R. R. Tillman, Trenton.

**Congress.** First district—Richard S. Whaley, Charleston.

Second district—James F. Byrnes, Aiken; T. G. Croft, Aiken; N. G. Evans, Edgefield; G. L. Toole, Aiken.

Third district—Wyatt Aiken, Abbeville; F. H. Dominick, Newberry.

Fourth district—H. L. Bomar, Spartanburg; Sam J. Nicholls, Spartanburg; D. B. Traxler, Greenville.

Fifth district—J. F. Stevenson, Cherohoke.

Sixth district—W. W. Ragsdale, Florence.

Seventh district—T. F. Brantley, Orangeburg; A. F. Lever, Lexington; T. G. McLeod, Bishopville; C. P. Timmerman, Lexington.

**Solicitor.** Third circuit—F. A. McLeod, Sumter; L. E. Wood, Sumter.

Twelfth circuit—L. M. Gasque, Marion.

**Governor.** Andrew J. Bethea, Columbia; R. A. Cooper, Laurens; J. M. DesChamps, Rock Hill; John T. Duncan, Columbia; John L. McLauren, Bennettsville; Thomas H. Peoples, Barnwell; John G. Richards, Liberty Hill.

**Lieutenant Governor.** Octavius Cohen, Monck's Corner; J. T. Liles, Orangeburg; G. W. Wightman, Batesburg.

**Superintendent of Education.** V. E. Rector, Darlington; J. E. Swearingen, Columbia.

**Attorney General.** Cland N. Sapp, Lancaster; R. P. Seaton, Allendale; S. M. Wolfe, Anderson.

**Secretary of State.** W. Banks Dove, Columbia.

**Comptroller General.** C. W. Sawyer, Columbia.

**State Treasurer.** S. T. Carter, Columbia.

**Commissioner of Agriculture.** R. Harris, Anderson; W. D. Garrison, Anderson; H. T. Morrison, Mc-Clellenville.

**Railroad Commissioner.** H. H. Arnold, Woodruff; A. A. Richardson, Matthews; D. J. McLaughlin, St. Matthews; D. L. Smith, Wallerboro; J. T. Yowell, Columbia.

**Adjutant General.** W. W. Moore, Barnwell.

**When Bombs Are Falling.** Margaret Deland says in her article written

from France and printed in the June Woman's Home Companion: "I found an American girl who has been driving an ambulance in Serbia, as certain that the individual doesn't count as a French woman I have met. 'Oh, yes,' said she, her eyes narrowing with memory, 'yes, we always used to run out and stand gazing up, when the aeroplanes came and bombed us. It was awfully pretty, the sky is so blue there! Well, you'd see one of 'em coming along oh—high, high up, you know then you'd see a little white puff, just as pretty! coming down like a little cloud. Well, it would be a bomb,' she ended laconically.

"But what would you do? Run hide? Get some kind of shelter?"

"Hide? she repeated, puzzled. 'Why, no? what would tell where the thing was going to hit?'

"But it might hit you?"

"Why, yes, I suppose it might," she said, and frowned thoughtfully. "Funny! You don't think of that, somehow. It doesn't seem to matter."

"There it is again! You don't matter!"

**FEDERAL ESPIONAGE ACT**

Provisions for Violation are Very Draconic.

Following is the principal section of the espionage act, recently passed by congress and signed by the president:

"Sec. 3. Whoever, when the United States is at war, shall willfully make or convey false reports or false statements with intent to interfere with the operation or success of the military or naval forces of the United States, or shall willfully make or convey reports or statements, or say or do anything except by way of bona fide and not disloyal advice to an investor or investors, with intent to obstruct the sale by the United States of bonds or other securities of the United States or the making of loans by or to the United States, and whoever, when the United States is at war, shall willfully cause, or attempt to cause, or incite or attempt to incite, or refuse to do, or do anything except by way of bona fide and not disloyal advice to an investor or investors, with intent to obstruct the sale by the United States of bonds or other securities of the United States, or shall willfully obstruct or attempt to obstruct the recruiting or enlistment service of the United States, and whoever, when the United States is at war, shall willfully utter, print, write or publish any disloyal, profane, scurrilous, or abusive language about the form of government of the United States, or the constitution of the United States, or the military or naval forces of the United States, or the flag of the United States, or the uniform of the army or navy of the United States, or any language intended to bring the form of government of the United States, or the constitution of the United States, or the military or naval forces of the United States, or the flag of the United States, or the uniform of the army or navy of the United States, into contempt, scorn, contumely, or disrepute, or shall willfully utter, print, write or publish any language intended to incite, provoke or encourage resistance to the United States, or to promote the cause of its enemies, or shall willfully display the flag of any foreign enemy, or shall willfully utter, writing, printing, publication, or language spoken, urge, incite or advocate any curtailment or production in this country of any thing or things, product or products, necessary or essential to the prosecution of the war in which the United States may be engaged, with intent by such curtailment to cripple or hinder the United States in the prosecution of the war, and whoever shall willfully advocate, teach, defend, or suggest the doing of any of the acts or things in this section enumerated, and who shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 20 years, or both; Provided, That any employee or officer of the United States government who commits any disloyal act or utters any unpatriotic or disloyal language, or who in an abusive or violent manner criticizes the army or navy or the flag of the United States shall be at once dismissed from the service. Any such employee shall be dismissed by the head of the department in which the employee may be engaged, and any such official shall be dismissed by the authority having power to appoint a successor to the dismissed official."

**American Casualty List.**—Seven hundred and seventy casualties reported among the American expeditionary forces during the week ending last Sunday, brought the total since American troops landed in France nearly a year ago to 8,055.

The second weekly summary of casualties issued Sunday by the war department shows that the total number of deaths from all causes is 1,192, while 4,547 men have been wounded in action and 346 are missing in action, including all men held prisoners in Germany.

The summary, which includes Sunday's list, follows:

Killed in action (including 291 at sea), 1,172. Died of wounds, 364. Died of disease, 1,234. Died of accident and other causes, 422. Wounded in action, 4,547. Missing in action, (including prisoners) 346. Total casualties reported to date, 8,055.

With more than 800,000 soldiers sent overseas, officials point to the small number, 291, lost through operations of German submarines as showing the effectiveness of the convoy system. The men lost were on the torpedoed British steamer Tuscania and Moldavia. The former was taking troops from America to England and the latter from England to France.

A comparatively small number of men dying from wounds is pointed to as indicating the efficiency of the ambulance and hospital systems, while the fact that only 1,234 men have died of diseases is accepted as proof of the excellent physical condition of America's fighting men.

## ECLIPSE OF THE SUN

Phenomenon as Described by Scientist.

ALL ECLIPSE CAREFULLY WATCHED

Astronomers Are Tremendously Interested Because the Occasion Furnishes Opportunity for Calculations that Have Bearing on Movements of All Heavenly Bodies.

When the path of the total eclipse of the sun began to sweep across the United States on June 8, starting at South Bend, Washington, at 2:55 in the afternoon, and leaving the continent at Florida, at 5:42, perhaps the most anxious group of men in the country was a party of five scientists, three from the naval observatory at Washington and two from the University of Virginia, stationed at Baker, Oregon. There the shadow arrived at 3:05 p. m., and the duration of totality was 117 seconds, just eleven seconds longer than the eclipse which took a large party of scientists from the U. S. naval observatory to Spain some years ago.

The uneasiness which scientists experience at the time of an eclipse, together with the graphic picture of the phenomenon, is described in a communication to the National Geographic society from Rear Admiral C. M. Chester, formerly superintendent of the U. S. Naval observatory and commander-in-chief of the American expedition to Spain. A part of Admiral Chester's communication is issued by the society as the following bulletin:

"The three principal stations of the American party for observing the eclipse were prepared for the event of 30th August with the greatest care, and the instruments adjusted to the exact location of the point occupied by the stations selected were necessarily well away from centers of activity, the proper means for determining longitude were wanting. Here the government officials in Spain and the telegraph companies in Algeria came to our rescue and not only extended the telegraphic lines to our camps, but detailed operators to assist us in the work. We were thus connected at Guelma with the line astronomical observatory at Algiers, and the Doreca and Forta Coeli stations were given, at stated intervals, the tick of the clock of the royal observatory at Madrid. The extension line from Valencia to Porto Coeli alone was nearly 18 miles in length and was put up at very considerable expense to the Spanish government."

It was only one of the many features of the eclipse expedition to which the United States contributed to the Spanish authorities. I desire to place on record here that no cordial was our reception from the alcalde of Sogorbe as to include the offer of the principal park of the city for a camp ground and a good portion of its municipal buildings for the use of one of the parties, but its location was about 20 miles within the eclipse belt, and Porto Coeli, 10 miles nearer the edge, was selected for station 2.

"The morning of August 30th dawned in the midst of the air as well as in the minds of our anxious astronomer in Spain; great masses of black clouds chased each other across the heavens, as if bent on shutting out from the view of man the grand performance of nature about to be enacted; but toward noon it began to clear at our Porto Coeli station. There were, however, signs of a return of the clouds that kept us between hope and fear for several hours. The Doreca station telegraphed about two hours before the eclipse, 'Cloudy and uncertain.' Our anxiety simply became intensified by this brief message. If it would be clear at one station in time to make observations, the strain of over-wrought nerves would be compensated for; otherwise the labor of years would be thrown away and I fear the chief of the expedition would be the victim of the 'fool's errand.'"

"For six weeks preceding the eclipse, a drought had covered the land and the sky had been cloudless; but the want of rain left the air full of impurities, and its motion, being magnified in our instruments gave an indistinct picture in our cameras that caused alarm. The storm then sweeping over Spain, however, cleared away all the impurities and caused a distinctive newness to our photographs rarely seen during an eclipse. Clouds still surrounded us, however, drifting with great rapidity and we watched with keen interest to see if they were steering toward our objective; but the mass which they made was as good as many miles to us. We afterward learned that at Batera, only six miles from Porto Coeli, the sun was obscured by clouds all during the time of totality. It was then a source of congratulation that the station had been selected at an elevation of some 1,000 feet, which while increasing the difficulty of transportation, gave us a better view of the eclipse than could be had on the lowlands near the Mediterranean shores."

"Soon after noon the sun sent out his glorious rays down into the 'gates of heaven' as far as a view as can be imagined. Mr. Hill, assistant astronomer, in charge of the 9-foot camera, called my attention to the picture of the sun on his ground-glass plate. 'As clear as a bell,' said he—not a quiver in the atmosphere."

"As the time drew near for the first contact, all eyes became riveted on the sun. Suddenly Mr. Hill sang out, 'Here he comes.' It was twenty seconds ahead of the time predicted, but why did we not stop to consider. At first only through the delicate instruments could we discern the contact of the sun and moon and no appreciable effect was observed on the landscape, but as the opaque body of the moon gradually covered the bright disk of the sun, the many thousands of interest, who were becoming conscious of the growing darkness. We were then watching the partial phase of the eclipse, which might be seen by almost any of the 2,000,000,000 of the earth's inhabitants who were favored with daylight and good weather; but the comparatively few in number who were located within the 50-mile belt of totality were yet to see the grand picture of the corona.